12.00 Noon

ELECTION OF DEPUTY CHAIRMAN

MR. CHAIRMAN: There are seven Motions for the election of the Deputy Chairman. The Members who have given notice may now move them one by one and in each case, the Motion is also to be seconded by the seconder thereof.

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): Sir, I beg to move the following Motion:—

"That Dr. (Shrimati) Najma Heptulla be chosen as the Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha."

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): Sir, I second the Motion.

श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय (उत्तर प्रदेश) : माननीय सभापति जी, आज राज्य सभा के उपसभापति का चुनाव है ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री सभापति : You only move, nothing else. इस वक्त तो आपको मूव करना है ।

श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय : उसी को बोल रहा हूं । सत्ता पक्ष ने विपक्ष को विश्वास में नहीं लिया है, लेकिन सर्वसम्मति से चुनाव हो...**व्यवधान**)..

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. I am not going to depart from the practice You move it. That is all.

श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय : मेरे नाम के आगे आज की कार्यसूची में जो प्रस्ताव है, उसे मैं उपस्थित नहीं करता ।

श्री वीरेन्द्र वर्मा (उत्तर प्रदेश) : मैं सेकंड नहीं करता ।

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): Sir, I beg to move the following Motion:—

"That Dr (Shrimati) Najma Heptulla be chosen as the Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha."

डा० जगन्नाथ मिश्र (बिहार) : मैं इसका समर्थन करता हूं ।

SHRI DARBARA SINGH (Punjab): Sir, I beg to move the following Motion:—

"That Dr. (Shrimati) Najma Heptulla be chosen as the Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha."

SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO (Jammu and Kashmir): Sir, I second the Motion.

श्री राम चन्द्र विकल (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सभापति महोदय, मैं आपकी आज्ञा से प्रस्ताव करता हूं कि "डा. (श्रीमती) नाजमा हेपतुल्ला को राज्य सभा का उपसभापति चुना जाय ।" (व्यवधान)

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY (Pondicherry): Sir, I second the Motion.

SHRI P. N. SUKUL (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I beg to move the following Motion:—

"That Dr. (Shrimati) Najma Heptulla be chosen as the Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha."

श्री मीर्जा इर्शाद बेग (गुजरात) : मैं प्रस्ताव का समर्थन करता हूं ।

श्री सीता राम केसरी (बिहार) : मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूं कि :—

डा० (श्रीमती) नाजमा हेपतुल्ला को राज्य सभा का उपसभापति चुना जाये ।

श्री भगत राम मनहर (मध्य प्रदेश): मैं प्रस्ताव का समर्थन करता हूं ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, I put the first Motion, moved by Shri P. Shiv Shanker and duly seconded by Shri M. M Jacob, to vote.

The question is:

"That Dr. (Shrimati) Najma Heptulla be chosen as the Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha."

The motion was adopted.

FELICITATIONS TO NEWLY ELECTED DEPUTY CHAIRMAN

MR. CHAIRMAN: She is unanimously elected.

THE LEADER OF THE HOUSE (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is with immense pleasure and with great satisfaction that I extend my hearty congratulations to Dr. (Shrimati) Najma Heptulla for having been unanimously elected as the Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha. It is a strange coincidence, Mr. Chairman, Sir, that her predecessor laid down the office for the purpose of party work and in 1986, similarly, Dr. (Shrimati) Najma Heptulla, had also laid down the office for the purpose of party work. In a way, it is a home-coming for her because she has already occupied this position and even before that, she was on the panel of the Vice-Chairmen. To the office that she has been unanimously elected, she brings to bear the very rich experience of having presided over the House in the capacity of a Vice-Chairman as also in the capacity of the Deputy Chairman. Therefore, nothing much can be said about her. Tremendous encomiums were paid to her at the time when she had occupied the position in 1985 and equally, at the time when she laid down her office. She has a multi-faceted personality. She has tremendous educational qualifications. She had been doing quite a bit of social service. She had been an author. Therefore, when she occupies this position, she brings to bear her multi-faceted qualities on this office. In recent times, she was elected as the Vice-Chairman of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association in 1987. She had been rendering yeoman service as the Chairman of the Indo-Arab Society and as the Editor-in-Chief of 'Hamari Goshti', she had been doing a tremendous service in the cultural field to establish better relations between the people of the Soviet Union and our own country. Sir, I would not like to take much time. I would heartily congratulate her once again and I am sure that in the office that she occupies she would acquit her duties with great erudition and capacity.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. (Shrimati) Najma Heptulla will now be conducted to her seat by one from this side and one from the Opposition. Now, Mr. Gurupadaswamy.

SHRI M. S GURUPADASWAMY (Karnataka): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am extremely happy that Shrimati Najma Heptulla was unanimously elected to the Chiar as the Deputy Chairman. In a way, it is a return of Najma Heptulla to the Chair. She occupied the Chair and conducted the proceedings very ably as the Deputy Chairman in the past. We have not forgotten her charm, her sweetness and her versatality in conducting the proceedings of the House when she occupied the Chair. As the Leader of the House has put it, a lady was followed by a lady. Pratibha Patil was the Deputy Chairman till now. Now we have Najma. It is a good change. India is the largest democracy and it should also be an effective democracy. To ensure that the parliamentary institutions should function well, the key element, the kingpin, of the parliamentary institutions is the presiding officer. The presiding officers are the custodians of the rights and privileges of the House. The success of the deliberations largely depends upon them. With Najma as the Deputy Chairperson I am sure she will be as impartial, as fair and she will be as charming as she is beautiful in the Chair...

SHRI ALADI ARUNA *alias* V. ARUNACHALAM (Tamil Nadu): You are inviting trouble from the other beauties.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: I only wish to say on this occasion that the ruling party should have consulted us before choosing Najma for this august Chair. We would have gladly accepted the suggestion. I thought they would consult us. They did not do it. Anyway I am happy indeed that we have got a nice, charming, fairly experienced, person in the Chair. I hope and trust that she will not be re-